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# DAUGHTERS OF AMERICAN REVOLUTION

Mark Twain Chapter

# Ruth Wyllys Chapter

# Daughters of the American Revolution

HARTFORD, CONN.
Press of The Case, Lockwood & Brainard Company
January 1894

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LIST OF OFFICERS
FIRST ANNUAL REPORTS
BY-LAWS AND
MEMBERSHIP ROLL OF THE
RUTH WYLLYS CHAPTER

# OFFICERS

**State Regent**
MRS. DE B. RANDOLPH KEIM
Washington, D. C.

**Honorary Regent**
MRS. ELIZABETH RODGERS SMITH
Hotel Capitol

**Regent**
MRS. JOHN MARSHALL HOLCOMBE
79 Spring Street

**Vice-Regent**
MISS ANTOINETTE RANDOLPH PHELPS
72 Washington Street

**Secretary**
MRS. ALBERT HASTINGS PITKIN
625 Asylum Avenue

**Corresponding Secretary**
MRS. CHARLES EDWARD GROSS
840 Asylum Avenue

**Treasurer**
MISS MABEL WYLLYS WAINWRIGHT
111 Elm Street

**Registrar**
MISS MARY KINGSBURY TALCOTT
815 Asylum Avenue

**Historian**
MISS JULIA BRATTLE BURBANK
714 Asylum Avenue

## Ruth Wyllys Chapter

### Local Board of Managers

Mrs. Dr. Wainwright
Mrs. Francis B. Cooley
Miss Charlotte A. Jewell
Mrs. Francis Goodwin
Mrs. Chas. F. Johnson
Mrs. William Hamersley
Miss Ellen M. Case
Mrs. W. H. Palmer
Mrs. Chas. W. Havemeyer

### Advisory Board

Rev. Francis Goodwin
Dr. W. A. M. Wainwright
Mr. Joseph G. Woodward
Mr. John M. Holcombe

### Committee on Publication

Mrs. J. M. Holcombe
Mrs. A. H. Pitkin
Miss M. W. Wainwright
Miss M. K. Talcott
Mrs. Charles H. Clark
Miss Charlotte A. Jewell

### Delegates to the National Society

Miss M. K. Talcott
Miss C. D. Bissell

## The Ruth Wyllys Chapter of Hartford, Connecticut, Daughters of the American Revolution, from its Organization to the First Annual Meeting, Nov. 18, 1892 — Oct. 31, 1893

THE records of this Society, thus far, show that the inspiration of the movement proceeded from a circular issued by the National Board in Washington, D. C., and sent to a few ladies early in the year of 1892. It was addressed to the "female descendants of an ancestor, who with unfailing loyalty rendered material aid to the cause of Independence as a recognized patriot, as a soldier or sailor, or as a civil officer, in one of the several Colonies or States, or of one of the United Colonies or States, resident in Connecticut, or from the mother of such a patriot."

Considerable interest was manifested during the summer, but no formal action was taken until November, 1892, when the presence among us of Mrs. De B. Randolph Keim of Washington, D. C., State Regent for Connecticut, furnished the necessary impulse.

Invitations were extended by note and personal solicitation to such ladies as were known to be eligible to membership, to be present at a meeting, held November 18th, at the residence of Miss Antoinette Randolph Phelps, great-great-granddaughter of Col. Noah Phelps, who was leader of a band of volunteers who

captured Fort Ticonderoga, one of the most daring exploits of the Revolutionary War. Some of the ladies were already honorary members of the "Sons of the American Revolution" of Connecticut, and I take occasion here to mention that in no State of the Union have ladies of Revolutionary ancestry received the privilege of honorary membership in that society which is accorded them in the State of Connecticut, and also to note with grateful acknowledgments the kindliness, courtesy, and aid extended by them in the formation of this new Society of kindred spirit.

Despite the gray November skies and the fact of two afternoon teas and a parlor reading, fifteen ladies gathered at the time and place appointed. The following is the list of ladies known to be present, most of whom made application for membership at that time:

Mrs. De B. Randolph Keim,
Miss A. R. Phelps,
Mrs. E. Rodgers Smith,
Mrs. H. B. Beach,
Mrs. Seth Talcott,
Mrs. Dr. W. A. M. Wainwright,
Miss Mabel Wainwright,
Miss M. K. Talcott,
Mrs. J. W. Cone,
Miss C. A. Jewell,
Miss Helen Rathbun,
Mrs. James Nichols,
Miss Ellen Hooker,
Mrs. John M. Holcombe,
Mrs. A. H. Pitkin.

Several ladies, unable to attend, sent words of encouragement and affiliation with the formation of this Society. The meeting was called to order and Mrs. Keim was chosen chairman, and Mrs. A. H. Pitkin, secretary. Two methods of forming societies are allowed under the Constitution, and the one which

contemplates the selection and appointment of officers by the State Regent as organizing officer was adopted.

The following is the list of officers appointed by the State Regent, which was considered necessary for the full organization of the Chapter:

*Regent*, Mrs. J. M. Holcombe.
*Vice-Regent*, Miss A. R. Phelps.
*Secretary*, Mrs. A. H. Pitkin.
*Treasurer*, Miss Mabel W. Wainwright.
*Registrar*, Miss M. K. Talcott.

The Constitution of the National Society, its plan of organization, objects, fees and dues, delegates, form of application and insignia, was adopted. The meeting adjourned to December 8th, when the general plan of work for the year and the name of the Society, that of "Ruth Wyllys," was decided upon. December 27th the names of the officers and charter members, sixteen in all, with fees and application papers, were sent to Washington, and application made for a charter. During January no meetings were held, but constant additions were made to the membership, and a total list to February 9, 1893, of fifty-seven members were sent to Washington by the secretary. The interest in Hartford which this Society aroused in the first few months of its existence has been attested in the records of the National Society by the following:

"The 'Ruth Wyllys Chapter' in Hartford was the quickest organization of any Chapter on the records of the Society in this country."

## Ruth Wyllys Chapter

At a meeting held February ninth, the charter dated January sixth, 1893, was presented and a committee consisting of Mrs. Dr. Wainwright, Mrs. Judson H. Root, and Mrs. H. T. Sperry, were appointed to frame it suitably. Mrs. Root resigning, Miss Frances Johnson was appointed.

Contributions of pieces of wood from the original Charter Oak were offered by several members of the society, and October first witnessed the glorious completion of this most satisfactory work of the committee.

The following is the list of those who contributed pieces of wood from the "Charter Oak" for the framing of the Charter; the list prepared by Mrs. W. A. M. Wainwright, Chairman of that committee:

Mrs. Elizabeth R. H. Smith,
Mrs. Judson H. Root,
Mrs. William F. Tuttle,
Mrs. Henry T. Sperry,
Mrs. Frederick Porter,
Miss Ellen M. Stuart,
Miss Martha P. Clark,
Mrs. C. R. Boynton,
Mrs. George W. Newton,
Mrs. A. B. Francis,
Mrs. Tuit,
Miss Elizabeth G. Smith,
Mr. W. H. Whitelaw,
Mr. John Watson,
Mr. Peter Taylor,
Mr. Skinner,

and several pieces from the estate of J. H. Most.

The incorporators named in the charter of the Chapter are the following:

Mrs. J. M. Holcombe,
Mrs. Samuel Colt,
Mrs. C. Nichols Beach,
Mrs. Francis Goodwin,
Mrs. Chas. F. Johnson,
Mrs. Francis B. Cooley,
Miss A. R. Phelps,
Miss Mary Clarke,
Mrs. W. A. M. Wainwright,
Miss Charlotte A. Jewell,
Miss Ellen M. Case,
Miss Emily W. Ellsworth,
Mrs. James Nichols,

and the officers:

Mrs. J. M. Holcombe,
Mrs. A. H. Pitkin,
Miss M. W. Wainwright,
Miss M. K. Talcott.

At this meeting a vote was taken on what is called the "eligibility clause of the Constitution." The sentiment of the Ruth Wyllys Chapter, as expressed by vote, was unanimous in favor of lineal descent and for striking out the clause, "mother of a patriot," from Article III, section 1, of the National Constitution. The delegates appointed at this meeting, Miss M. K. Talcott and Miss C. D. Bissell, were instructed so to vote at the National Congress, so representing the sentiment of the Ruth Wyllys Chapter, and, as it proved, in harmony with the other Connecticut delegates. The society is to be congratulated in that these ladies also represented the Ruth Wyllys Chapter at Chicago, May nineteenth, at the Woman's Congress.

Later in the month, May twenty-second, a shadow fell upon the society when we learned with deep regret of the death of Mrs. Col. John B. Clapp, the first of our number to be taken from us by death. Gentle

and unassuming in her manner, she gained the love and respect of all who came under her influence. Her life among us will always awaken the kindliest recollections. Memorial notices from the National Society, and from the Ruth Wyllys Chapter, were sent to the members of her family.

During the year the Regent, Mrs. Holcombe, has prepared the by-laws, and they have been accepted by the society. Miss M. K. Talcott has presented a paper on Ruth Wyllys, which was printed in full, in the "Evening Post," and one copy sent by the secretary to each member.

Miss Caroline D. Bissell has given a very interesting paper on the meeting of the National Congress in Washington, D. C., February, 1893. We have had two executive and four general meetings during the year. Our membership roll contains one hundred and six names. No persons are admitted without clear proof of the Revolutionary service of an ancestor.

Our thanks are due the ladies whose hospitality has been so cordially extended, Miss A. R. Phelps and Mrs. Dr. Wainwright, and to the ladies who have prepared papers for the meetings, and to the city press for the many notices of our progress from time to time appearing in their columns.

The progress which this society has made during its first year has been so marked and satisfactory that we have just cause for congratulation for the success which has been achieved in bringing together so many of Connecticut's representative names recalling ancestral memories of the struggle for Independence.

The experimental stage is passed and we now occupy a position in our National Society worthy of our ancestors, the memory of whose deeds of heroism and sacrifice has brought us together to-day. May we not extend our influence so that all women in whose veins flows the blood of Revolutionary ancestry may aid in perpetuating the patriotic spirit of the men who achieved American Independence.

Cicero has said,

> "Dear are ancestors,
> Dear are children,
> Dear are relatives and friends;
> All these loves are contained in love of country."

Mrs. Albert Hastings Pitkin,
*Secretary.*

# BY-LAWS

## ARTICLE I

### Name

The name of this chapter shall be the RUTH WYLLYS CHAPTER.

## ARTICLE II

### Membership

Any woman having the qualifications prescribed by the National Society, who resides in Hartford or vicinity, shall be considered eligible to membership in the chapter. The spirit of the clause "descended from the mother of a patriot," being interpreted by the National Board as follows: that the loyalty to the Colonies of the said mother be distinctly proven, as well as the loyalty of the child from whom applicant descends, and provided that the applicant be otherwise acceptable to the society.

## ARTICLE III

### Fees

Initiation fees and annual dues shall be such as are prescribed by the National Society's constitution. If, at any time, additional funds are needed, the Chapter may, by a three-fourths vote, authorize the

Treasurer to levy such assessments as the Chapter may recommend. Any member in arrears for dues, three months after two notices of her indebtedness have been sent her by the Treasurer, may be dropped from the rolls of the Chapter by the Local Board of Management.

## ARTICLE IV

### Officers

The officers of the Chapter shall be a Regent, Vice-Regent, Recording Secretary, Corresponding Secretary, Treasurer, Registrar, Historian, Local Board of Management of seven or more persons to act with the officers; an Advisory Board of four gentlemen, and such other officers as future necessity may demand.

## ARTICLE V

### Election of Officers

The Chapter shall elect its officers, its Local Board of Management, and its delegates to the Continental Congress, on the thirty-first day of October, — this being the anniversary of the hiding of the Charter in the Oak on the Wyllys estate, — of each year, or, if that date falls on Sunday, on the following day.

In case of a vacancy by resignation or death, a temporary officer may, if necessary, be appointed by the Regent to serve until the next meeting, when the vacancy shall be regularly filled by election.

Nominations shall be made from the floor, and election shall be by ballot. A majority shall elect.

No officer shall be eligible for more than two years consecutively.

## ARTICLE VI

### Duties of Officers

The duties of officers shall be such as usually appertain to their offices, and such as are prescribed by the regulations of the National Society.

## ARTICLE VII

### Honorary Members

Any woman resident of Hartford or near vicinity, who is a member of any other Society or Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution, may be elected an Honorary member of the Chapter.

## ARTICLE VIII

### Meetings

The annual meeting for the election of officers shall be held on the thirty-first day of October, or, if that fall on Sunday, on the following day. Other regular meetings of the Chapter shall be held in January, April, and June. Special meetings may be called at any time by the Regent. Notices of all meetings shall be mailed to all members five (5) days before the time of said meeting.

## ARTICLE IX

### Order of Business

1. Reading of minutes of previous meeting.
2. Report of officers.
3. Report of Committees.
4. Miscellaneous business.

## ARTICLE X

### Standing Committees

At each annual meeting the Regent shall appoint a programme committee, or such committees as may be deemed necessary by the Local Board.

## ARTICLE XI

### Advisory Board

An Advisory Board of four may be elected from members of the Society of the Sons of the American Revolution residing in Hartford, Conn.

## ARTICLE XII

### Quorum

Five members of the Local Board constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

## ARTICLE XIII

### Amending By-Laws

These By-Laws may be amended at any regular meeting, written notice of the proposed change having been submitted at a previous meeting.

# REPORT OF THE TREASURER

MISS MABEL WYLLYS WAINWRIGHT, *Treasurer, in account with the* RUTH WYLLYS CHAPTER, DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION, *from its organization, November eighteenth, 1892, to October thirty-first, 1893:*

RECEIPTS

| | |
|---|---|
| Fees and annual dues, | $307.00 |

DISBURSEMENTS

| | |
|---|---|
| National Society, | $226.00 |
| Charter, | 5.00 |
| Postage and stationery, | 26.60 |
| Expense of delegate, | 13.40 |
| Printing, | 3.00 |
| Cash box, | 1.50 |
| | $275.50 |
| Cash on hand, | 31.50 |
| | $307.00 |

*Audited and found correct.*

DR. W. A. M. WAINWRIGHT.

# MEMBERSHIP ROLL

| | |
|---|---|
| Allen, Mrs. B. R. | *122 Woodland st.* |
| Allen, Miss Edith | *Prospect ave.* |
| Barker, Mrs. Ludlow | *West Hartford* |
| Barnes, Mrs. L. W. | *18 Florence st.* |
| Bartlett, Miss M. L. | *31 Farmington ave.* |
| Beach, Miss E. H. J. | *Armsmear* |
| Beach, Mrs. C. Nichols | *Armsmear* |
| Beach, Mrs. Chas. L. | *21 Capitol ave.* |
| Beach, Mrs. Geo. Watson | *8 Main st.* |
| Bennett, Miss Alice N. | *300 Farmington ave.* |
| Bingham, Mrs. J. F. | *484 Farmington ave.* |
| Bissell, Miss Caroline D. | *93 Spring st.* |
| Brocklesby, Mrs. John H. | *15 Columbia st.* |
| Bronson, Miss Alice | *18 Niles st.* |
| Bronson, Mrs. A. H. | *18 Niles st.* |
| Bosworth, Mrs. S. B. | *1506 Broad st.* |
| Burbank, Miss Julia B. | *714 Asylum ave.* |
| Burdick, Mrs. Geo. | *205 Sigourney st.* |
| Calhoun, Mrs. J. G. | *360 Laurel st.* |
| Campbell, Mrs. James | *34 Congress st.* |
| Case, Mrs. Albert W. | *South Manchester* |
| Case, Miss Ellen M., | *305 Farmington ave.* |
| Clapp, Mrs. John B. | * |
| Clark, Mrs. Chas. Hopkins | *14 Prospect st.* |
| Clark, Miss Mary | *68 Main st.* |
| Coffin, Mrs. H. R. | *Windsor Locks* |
| Collins, Miss M. F. | *94 Woodland st.* |
| Colt, Mrs. Samuel | *Armsmear* |
| Cone, Miss Florence | *182 Collins st.* |
| Cone, Mrs. J. H. | *784 Asylum ave.* |
| Cook, Mrs. A. G. | *164 High st.* |
| Cooley, Mrs. Francis B. | *119 Farmington ave.* |
| Cooley, Miss Clara M. | *119 Farmington ave.* |
| Deming, Mrs. Ernest | *131 Sigourney st.* |

## Ruth Wyllys Chapter

| | |
|---|---|
| Ellsworth, Miss Emily W. | *68 Collins st.* |
| Ferguson, Mrs. Henry | *123 Vernon st.* |
| Frances, Mrs. F. A. | *3 Farmington ave.* |
| Francis, Miss Mary | *101 Elm st.* |
| Faxon, Mrs. Walter C. | *29 Huntington st.* |
| Gladwin, Mrs. S. M. | *705 Asylum ave.* |
| Goodrich, Miss Mabel | *24 Main st.* |
| Goodwin, Mrs. Francis | *103 Woodland st.* |
| Goodwin, Miss Alice F. | *103 Woodland st.* |
| Goodwin, Miss Sarah M. | *103 Woodland st.* |
| Gross, Mrs. Chas. E. | *840 Asylum ave.* |
| Hamersley, Mrs. William | *155 Washington st.* |
| Hammond, Mrs. E. P. | *25 Atwood st.* |
| Hart, Mrs. A. E. | *964 Asylum ave.* |
| Havemeyer, Mrs. Chas. W. | *137 Washington st.* |
| Hitchcock, Mrs. H. P. | *119 Trumbull st.* |
| Holcombe, Mrs. J. M. | *79 Spring st.* |
| Hooker, Mrs. E. B. | *70 Farmington ave.* |
| Hubbard, Miss Edith | *29 Columbia st.* |
| Hubbard, Mrs. Geo. W. | *West Hartford* |
| Jewell, Miss C. A. | *140 Washington st.* |
| Johnson, Mrs. Chas. F. | *69 Vernon st.* |
| Johnson, Miss Frances | *106 Gillette st.* |
| Jones, Mrs. H. K. | *35 Spring st.* |
| Knous, Mrs. Jacob | *Prospect ave.* |
| Lyon, Mrs. Irving W. | *26 Buckingham st.* |
| Lyon, Miss Mary P. | *26 Buckingham st.* |
| Marsh, Mrs. John H. | *131 Sigourney st.* |
| McCray, Mrs. W. B. | *Gillette st.* |
| Nichols, Mrs. James G. | *948 Asylum ave.* |
| Northrop, Mrs. E. G. | *The Goodwin* |
| Palmer, Mrs. Frances C. | *1054 Asylum ave.* |
| Parker, Mrs. John D. | *183 Sigourney st.* |
| Parsons, Miss Tirzah M. | *5 Avon st.* |
| Pelton, Miss Edith C. | *792 Asylum ave.* |
| Pelton, Mrs. W. N. | *792 Asylum ave.* |
| Perry, Mrs. Alfred T. | *731 Asylum ave.* |
| Phelps, Miss A. R. | *72 Washington st.* |
| Pitkin, Mrs. A. H. | *625 Asylum ave.* |
| Rathbun, Mrs. J. G. | *17 Atwood st.* |
| Rathbun, Miss Helen B. | *17 Atwood st.* |
| Roberts, Mrs. Henry | *59 Lafayette st.* |
| Rockwell, Mrs. F. C. | *Prospect ave.* |

Mrs Dr B. Randolph Irvin 170 Ann st
Washington, D.C.

| | |
|---|---|
| Root, Miss Matilda C. | *160 Garden st.* |
| Root, Mrs. Judson H. | *66 Washington st.* |
| Sanford, Mrs. Walter | *210 Farmington ave.* |
| Scott, Mrs. J. Stanley | *85 Buckingham st.* |
| Sedgwick, Mrs. Charles F. | *44 Buckingham st.* |
| Shipman, Mrs. Nathaniel | *33 Charter Oak pl.* |
| Shipman, Miss Mary D. | *33 Charter Oak pl.* |
| Smith, Miss E. G. | *218 Main st.* |
| Spencer, Miss E. J. | *34 Buckingham st.* |
| Spencer, Miss M. C. | *553 Asylum ave.* |
| Sperry, Mrs. H. T. | *9 Winthrop st.* |
| Sperry, Miss M. B. | *9 Winthrop st.* |
| Stanley, Miss Nellie | *East Hartford* |
| Starr, Mrs. Pierre S. | *179 Sigourney st.* |
| Stillman, Miss A. W. | *100 Woodland st.* |
| St. John, Mrs. S. B. | *114 Washington st.* |
| Taintor, Mrs. J. U. | *862 Asylum ave.* |
| Talcott, Miss M. K. | *815 Asylum ave.* |
| Tuller, Mrs. Charles D. | *43 Park st.* |
| Tuttle, Miss Alice G. | *105 Trumbull st.* |
| Tuttle, Miss Jane | *12 Winthrop st.* |
| Tuttle, Mrs. W. F. | *12 Winthrop st.* |
| Wainwright, Miss Mabel W. | *111 Elm st.* |
| Wainwright, Mrs. W. A. M. | *111 Elm st.* |
| Weed, Miss Marion | *83 Elm st.* |
| Webb, Miss M. L. | *Windsor Locks* |
| Williams, Mrs. Harry B. | *24 Marshall st.* |
| Woodford, Miss Ada | *2 Sumner st.* |

Since the thirty-first of October, 1893, the following names have been added to the list:

| | |
|---|---|
| Barber, Mrs. Horace | *Allyn House* |
| Brooks, Miss Lydia C. | *104 Church st.* |
| Catlin, Mrs. Abijah | *966 Asylum ave.* |
| Dwight, Mrs. William B. | *13 Winthrop st.* |
| Gallup, Mrs. John | *Asylum ave.* |
| Morgan, Mrs. E. K. | *14 Russell st.* |
| Risley, Mrs. Elisha | *70 Gillette st.* |

MARY KINGSBURY TALCOTT,

*Registrar.*

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